

From: [R6HarveyLSC](#)
To: [R6HarveyInfo](#)
Subject: FW: Checking Status of two 213RRs sent in for Steven Merritt for Safety Equipment for Bravo Branch
Date: Saturday, September 9, 2017 3:26:27 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

From: Merritt, Steven
Sent: Saturday, September 9, 2017 3:26:25 PM (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)
To: R6HarveyLSC
Cc: R6HarveySO; Eppler, David
Subject: RE: Checking Status of two 213RRs sent in for Steven Merritt for Safety Equipment for Bravo Branch

Thank you for your diligence with the paperwork and the FEMA audit defense.

When shall we expect the items to be ordered and when will the shipment likely arrive?

Is there a prohibition somewhere in the EPAAR on doing a local purchase that doesn't require another day lost to shipping time for a micro-purchase of safety equipment? As an EPA purchase card holder in Region 8, I'm not aware of any such prohibition. Again, items are in stock locally at the suggested source and purchasing locally actually helps impacted local businesses recover – a high-priority objective for FEMA and SBA in disasters. If need be, I'll find a competitor or two and price the requested items out using items in stock at other vendors between now and Monday if it will prevent me from losing two more days to procurement and shipping on Monday and Tuesday.

I'm really not trying to be difficult, but the delays here are leaving field workers unnecessarily at risk of injury and lost time. As a safety officer, it's equally unacceptable and disappointing that process is trumping people.

Steven B. Merritt, CIH – LT, USPHS Commissioned Corps
Industrial Hygienist / Radiation Coordinator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8
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Merritt.Steven@epa.gov



From: R6HarveyLSC

Sent: Saturday, September 9, 2017 1:35 PM

To: Merritt, Steven <Merritt.Steven@epa.gov>

Cc: R6HarveySO <R6HarveySO@epa.gov>; Eppler, David <Eppler.David@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: Checking Status of two 213RRs sent in for Steven Merritt for Safety Equipment for Bravo Branch

Steven --- Although EPA R6 knows the work ethic of Mr. Eppler, FEMA does not. Our responsibility here, in the REOC, is to ensure that all the paperwork is done properly, should FEMA audit EPA's response.

Now that we have the proper signatures, the Logistics Section has approved the order and submitted it for processing. The request for sun screen has been denied as EPA considers sun cream a personal item. The rest of the items will be order and purchased by regional health and safety personnel and shipped to you.

From: Merritt, Steven

Sent: Saturday, September 9, 2017 9:42:58 AM

To: R6HarveyLSC

Cc: R6HarveySO; Eppler, David

Subject: FW: Checking Status of two 213RRs sent in for Steven Merritt for Safety Equipment for Bravo Branch

Fastenal is next open at 0700 on Monday AM. Unless another local vendor with like equipment/supplies can be located that is open today or tomorrow, the delays on this procurement have cost us a couple days during operational periods where we are ramping up more hazardous operations in the field. These supplies are needed for field crews and other personnel who are collecting orphan containers and drums and taking them to the staging area. R6 SO George Brozowski will be here in Bravo on Sunday evening and can be the point of contact for picking these items up once they are ordered. Hopefully we can get the purchase done online over the weekend so they can be picked up first thing Monday to outfit teams for that operational period instead of losing another day. Please let me know the status as you are able. Thanks for your efforts.

Steven B. Merritt, CIH – LT, USPHS Commissioned Corps

Industrial Hygienist / Radiation Coordinator

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From: Merritt, Steven

Sent: Friday, September 8, 2017 4:49 PM

To: R6HarveyLSC <R6HarveyLSC@epa.gov>

Cc: Eppler, David <eppler.david@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Checking Status of two 213RRs sent in for Steven Merritt for Safety Equipment for Bravo Branch

To the LSC in the R6 REOC,

The form says "Command Staff" in Approval Block 6. As the ASO for Bravo Branch, David Eppler is my supervisor and he is the Safety Officer for the whole ESF-10 incident command, which makes him Command Staff... He is also a trusted R6 employee. His signature on block 6 should be all that's required for approval and action of this 213RR for safety equipment to meet our highest command objective. Warren Zehner has now signed these document and I've taken photos of the hard copy signature and turned it into a PDF. I have also digitally signed them. There are two pages, both are for the same vendor and both contain unique line items. Fastenal.com Store TXPEA. I can go pick them up as soon as they are ordered. Please confirm receipt and let me know if you have what you need to process this ASAP. Then please let me know when they are ready for pickup.

Thanks!

Steven B. Merritt, CIH – LT, USPHS Commissioned Corps

Industrial Hygienist / Radiation Coordinator

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From: Eppler, David

Sent: Friday, September 8, 2017 3:00 PM

To: Merritt, Steven <Merritt.Steven@epa.gov>

Subject: FW: Checking Status of two 213RRs sent in for Steven Merritt for Safety Equipment for

Bravo Branch

Steve, see below. Please have Warren sign the 213RRs, then send to R6HarveyLSC. Sorry.

From: R6HarveyLSC
Sent: Friday, September 08, 2017 3:52 PM
To: Eppler, David <Eppler.David@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Checking Status of two 213RRs sent in for Steven Merritt for Safety Equipment for Bravo Branch

David -- We were just talking about that 213RR and Lisa instructed me to send it back to you for Warren's signature. We can not process orders with the proper approvals. Attached is the order that we need signed Thanks Greg

From: Eppler, David
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2017 3:42 PM
To: R6HarveyLSC
Subject: Checking Status of two 213RRs sent in for Steven Merritt for Safety Equipment for Bravo Branch

Adam,

Can you tell me if you have been able to act on the two 213RRs sent in by me for Steven Merritt in Bravo Branch, for some Safety Equipment?

Thanks,

David Eppler
US Environmental Protection Agency
Region 6
214-665-6529